



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|

10/727,322

12/03/2003

Victor S. Chan

CA920030029US1

6214

7590 06/19/2007  
Jeffrey S. LaBaw  
International Business Machines  
Intellectual Property Law  
11400 Burnet Road  
Austin, TX 78758

|          |
|----------|
| EXAMINER |
|----------|

ABEDIN, SHANTO

|          |              |
|----------|--------------|
| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
|----------|--------------|

2136

|           |               |
|-----------|---------------|
| MAIL DATE | DELIVERY MODE |
|-----------|---------------|

06/19/2007

PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

|                              |                        |                     |  |
|------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|--|
| <b>Office Action Summary</b> | <b>Application No.</b> | <b>Applicant(s)</b> |  |
|                              | 10/727,322             | CHAN ET AL.         |  |
|                              | <b>Examiner</b>        | <b>Art Unit</b>     |  |
|                              | Shanto M Z Abedin      | 2136                |  |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 03 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 December 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)            | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____                                      |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>06/17/2003</u>  | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                          |

***DETAILED ACTION***

1. This office action is in response to the communication filed on 12/03/2003.
2. Claims 1-27 are currently presented for the examination.
3. Claims 1-27 have been rejected.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101***

35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

4. ***Claims 10-18*** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter.

***Regarding claims 10-18***, the specification and the claim languages fail to disclose “the computer program product” as a tangible or non-software product. Therefore, a computer program product comprising only “code” is considered to be a program per se product, and non-statutory (MPEP 2106.01 [R-5]).

The examiner further notes, claimed computer program product can “**have**” (or associate itself with an outside or external medium such as a plug-in object) tangible medium embodying computer executable code (not clear whether same executable code referred as “code” later) , and still can be non-statutory since claimed program product actually comprised of only codes.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

Art Unit: 2136

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5. Claims 1-27 are rejected under 35 USC 102 (e) as being anticipated by Wood et al (US 6668322 B1).

***Regarding claim 1 and 19, Wood et al discloses a method/ system for managing multiple user identities for a user of an electronic commerce (e-commerce) site, the method comprising:***

defining the e-commerce site as one or more security domains (Col 13, lines 1-20; Col 15, starting at line 9; security architecture; controlling access to several/ multi level domains); and

in response to a user's request to invoke an operation of the e-commerce site: determining a one of the one or more security domains to which the operation relates (Fig 4.410: domainId; Col 13, lines 1-20; Col 15, starting at line 9; accessing resources in several/ multi level domains) ;

performing one of a) creating a session (Col 11, starting at line 11; Col 16, starting at line 50; session creation) and b) reusing a session for the user automatically in accordance with the determined security domain, said session associated with a user identity and a role indicating privileges for invoking operations of the e-commerce site in at least the determined security domain; and persisting said session for reuse (Col 8, starting at line 9; Col 13, starting at line 5; Col 15, starting at line 8; Col 16, starting at line 35; Claim 1,12; session credentials/ tokens for persistent/ subsequent sessions).

***Regarding claim 10, Wood et al discloses a computer program product having a computer readable medium tangibly embodying computer executable code for managing multiple user***

Art Unit: 2136

identities for a user of an electronic commerce (e-commerce) site defined using one or more security domains, the computer program product comprising code for (Col 4, line 35-45; Claim 28; computer program products):

in response to a user's request to invoke an operation of the e-commerce site (Fig 2; operations after step 201: access requests; Col 6, line 44-56; Col 15, starting at line 8; handling access requests; resource identification):

determining a one of the one or more security domains to which the operation relates (Fig 4.410: domainId; Col 13, lines 1-20; Col 15, starting at line 9; accessing resources in several/ multi level domains);

performing one of a) creating a session (Col 11, starting at line 11; Col 16, starting at line 50; session creation )and b) reusing a session for the user automatically in accordance with the determined security domain, said session associated with a user identity and a role indicating privileges for invoking operations of the e-commerce site in at least the determined security domain; and persisting said session for reuse (Col 8, starting at line 9; Col 13, starting at line 5; Col 15, starting at line 8; Col 16, starting at line 35; Claim 1,12; session credentials/ tokens for persistent/ subsequent sessions).

***Regarding claim 2, Wood et al discloses the method comprising invoking said requested operation with said user identity and role of said session (Col 10, starting at line 63; Col 16, starting at line 35, session objects; access requests).***

***Regarding claim 3, Wood et al discloses the method wherein the session comprises information indicating at least one of: the user preference's for invoking operations at the e-***

commerce site; the user's preferences for invoking operations at least the determined security domain (Col 12, starts at line 66; Col 15, starting at line 9; resource identification: session tokens for several domains); and a security signature for authenticating the session information (Col 14, starting at line 60; assigning signed/ cryptographically secured session credentials for different sessions/ domains).

***Regarding claim 4, Wood et al*** discloses the method comprising evaluating the requested operation to determine an operation type and wherein said step of performing is performed in accordance with the operation type (Col 15, starting at line 9; accessing requested resources).

***Regarding claim 5, Wood et al*** discloses the method comprising receiving the user's request in association with one or more sessions persisted for the user and selecting a one of the sessions in accordance with said determined security domain; and wherein said performing is performed in response to said selecting (Col 10, starting at line 30; Col 12, starts at line 66; session tokens for several domains; Col 16, starting at line 35; session credentials/ tokens for persistent/ subsequent sessions).

***Regarding claim 6, Wood et al*** discloses the method wherein said user identity is associated with an identity type for permitting the invocation of operations; wherein said method comprises receiving the user's request in association with one or more sessions persisted for the user and retrieving a user identity for the determined security domain from said one or more sessions; and wherein said performing is performed in response to the identity type of the retrieved user identity

Art Unit: 2136

(Col 3, starting at line 1; Col 10, starting at line 48; Claim 1,12; session credential including user identifying information; session continuity; access requests).

***Regarding claim 7, Wood et al discloses the method wherein said step of persisting comprises providing one or more cookies defining the session to the user for associating with a subsequent request (Col 8, starting at line 9; Col 13, starting at line 5; Col 15, starting at line 8; Col 16, starting at line 35; session credentials/ cookies/ tokens for persistent/ subsequent sessions).***

***Regarding claim 8, Wood et al discloses the method wherein the cookies comprise an authentication cookie and a session cookie; and wherein the method comprises authenticating the user's request (Fig 4.410, 420; encrypted login and session credentials/ cookie; Col 9 lines 6-15; Col 14, starting at line 21; claim 23, 24; multiple secured credentials ).***

***Regarding claim 9, Wood et al discloses the method comprising: defining each of the one or more security domains as a hierarchy of organizations and assets owned by the organizations; and wherein said determining a one of the one or more security domains to which the operation relates comprises evaluating the user's request in accordance with the hierarchy (Col 15, starting at line 8; domain level credentials).***

***Regarding claim 20, Wood et al discloses the system wherein the identity manager component is adapted to invoke said requested operation with said user identity and role of the session (Fig 1: Gatekeeper; Fig 3A:321, central security architecture).***

*Regarding claims 11-18*, they recite the limitations of claims 1-10, therefore, they are rejected applying as above rejecting claims 1-10.

*Regarding claims 21-27*, they recite the limitations of claims 1-10 and 20, therefore, they are rejected applying as above rejecting claims 1-10 and 20.

***Conclusion***

6. A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire in 3 (Three) months and 0 (Zero) days from the mailing date of this letter. Failure to respond within the period for response will result in ABANDONMENT of the application (see 35 U.S.C 133, M.P.E.P 710.02(b)).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Shanto M Abedin whose telephone number is 571-272-3551. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 9:00 AM to 5:30 PM. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Moazzami Nasser, can be reached on 571-272-4195. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Shanto M Abedin  
Examiner, AU 2136

NASSER MOAZZAMI  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100

  
6, 11, 07